



NEWS

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CHP OFFERS WINTER DRIVING SAFETY ADVICE

(Sacramento) Winter driving, whether it be through the foggy valley, along wet roads and highways or through the snow-capped mountains of California, can be a pleasant adventure - or it can be frustrating, tiring and sometimes even hazardous. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) wants to remind drivers to be prepared for winter conditions that could threaten their safety.

“It is important to start taking preventive measures for winter weather. Now is the perfect time to winterize your car and put together a winter emergency survival kit to take along for the ride,” said CHP Assistant Commissioner Art Anderson.

When traveling it’s recommended you carry the following items: Tire chains and tighteners, flashlight and batteries, flares, small shovel, windshield scraper, waterproof clothing that’s warm, blankets, snacks and drinking water. A cellular telephone with a backup power source might be the single most important safety item available.

Last winter in California 83 people were killed in collisions that occurred either in rainy, snowy or foggy conditions. More than 7,800 people were injured in crashes under similar weather conditions.

“Many crashes are caused by driving too fast for current conditions. Also, when the first blast of winter arrives, motorists often need to re-learn how to drive in slippery conditions,” said Anderson.

The CHP urges you to check road conditions often. The best way to do this is to call the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Road Conditions Hotline: **1-800-427-ROAD** (1-800-427-7623).

“With the upcoming holidays, millions of Californians will be out on the road, we just want to make sure you arrive alive. In other words no speeding, don’t drink and drive, and be sure to buckle up,” added Anderson.

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